

fight, the budget resolution that eventually came out of conference increased mandatory funding, but left discretionary programs, such as medical care, subject to cuts in future years.

When the joint budget resolution came out of conference, those of us in the House who had been fighting against cuts for veterans health care were encouraged that by engaging in constructive dialogue with leaders of the House, we could come to a resolution that would not leave veterans out in the cold. Today, that sense of encouragement is gone.

Today, the House Rules Committee refused to even consider amendments that would have added veterans' health care funding to a seriously deficient VA-HUD Appropriations bill. I am baffled as to why the Committee would not even allow consideration of an amendment that would have brought funding to the previously promised amount. The amendment, offered by the Chairman and Ranking Democratic Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee with the support of the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee's Health Subcommittee, was clearly bipartisan and would have added \$1.8 billion to veterans health care—the amount agreed to in our final budget resolution.

The President and some of the leaders of this House defend their poor records of veterans health care by claiming that they increased the funding, so that should be good enough. It doesn't take a professional policy degree to figure out that our veterans who served, and continue to serve our country so honorably, are aging. They need clinics. They need doctors. They need appointments to see those doctors soon, not in six months. The need is increasing, but the funding is not keeping up with it. We promised we would help them, and today, this grossly inadequate appropriations bill breaks that promise.

My vote against the VA-HUD Appropriations bill is not only a protest against this harmful cut in health care for our nation's bravest, but also a statement against the promises broken by this body. As my colleague, Representative ROBERT SIMMONS, on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee stated earlier, "an officer's word is his bond." It is a meaningful phrase to many veterans, and one that I hope the House of Representatives can live up to in the future when considering funding for the well being of our veterans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK
EVANS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a great American and a former United States Representative for Colorado's Third District. Frank Evans of Beulah, Colorado will celebrate his eightieth birthday this Saturday, and I am pleased to join with my colleagues in wishing him well on this momentous occasion.

Frank was born in Pueblo back in 1923 and has lived a life devoted to serving others. Frank first answered the call to service when he bravely fought to uphold the cause of free-

dom as a Navy patrol pilot during World War II. After returning home, he practiced law in his native Pueblo. Drawn to a life of public service, Frank served in the Colorado State Legislature for four years and then went on to represent the Third Congressional District of the great State of Colorado in this prestigious body. Frank selflessly served the constituents of my district for fourteen years before choosing to leave the Congress. All told, Frank spent eighteen years faithfully representing his fellow citizens of the State of Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, as Frank Evans prepares to celebrate his eightieth birthday, I am privileged to pay tribute to his remarkable life and numerous accomplishments. Frank dedicated many years of service to his friends and neighbors in Colorado. In both the Colorado State Legislature and in this body of Congress, Frank diligently served to meet the needs of his constituents. I am honored to join with my colleagues today in wishing Frank a happy birthday and many more great years ahead.

CONGRATULATING THE INTER-
NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
TEAMSTERS

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker I would like to congratulate the International Brotherhood of Teamsters as they commemorate their 100th anniversary tomorrow, Saturday, September 6, 2003.

The issues the Teamsters have fought for and won over those 100 years are the issues that have strengthened America: equal rights for all workers, regardless of color, creed, or gender; a 40-hour work week; a pension for retirement; paid holidays; employer sponsored healthcare; equal pay for women.

As corporate raiders continue to turn a deaf ear to the needs of America's working families, the 1.4 million members of the Teamsters continue to ensure that the voices of American labor are heard.

I know that in the next 100 years, we can count on the Teamsters to continue their work against unfair trade commitments, from CAFTA to the WTO, that continue to hurt working families in the U.S. and abroad; to continue to protect our roadways from unsafe foreign trucks; to continue protecting the health and safety of America's workforce; and to fight against the current administration's attempts to disqualify hundreds of thousands of Americans from receiving the overtime benefits they fought so hard to gain.

The Teamsters are needed now more than ever as some corporations break labor laws and fight union organizing as they ship jobs out of this country by supporting trade agreements that exploit workers' rights across the globe.

I congratulate the Teamsters on their 100 years of commitment to America's working families, and wish them well in the next 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, a centennial is an occasion for celebration, in which spirit it is my pleasure to congratulate the International Brotherhood of Teamsters on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. Founded on September 6, 1903, the Teamsters union has grown to become one of the largest and most diversified labor unions in the United States.

Originating as a group representing the men who drove horse-drawn wagons to deliver freight, the Teamsters have grown and changed with the times. In the early decades of the 20th Century, the Teamsters adapted by also representing the drivers of motor trucks. By the beginning of the 21st Century, the Teamsters had diversified to represent truckers, airline workers, building material and construction trades, dairy and food processing employees, parcel and small package workers, public employees working for local governments, and a variety of other workers. With a membership of 1.4 million, one out of every ten union members in the United States is a Teamster.

The Teamsters have served as a model for improving working conditions and wages for the American worker. In 1900, the typical Teamster worked 12 to 18 hours a day, 7 days a week, for an average wage of \$2.00 a day. Worker benefits that did not exist 100 years ago—the 40-hour work week, a retirement pension, paid holidays, and employer-sponsored healthcare—have become the norm for most of American labor, in large part because of the work of the Teamsters.

I congratulate the Teamsters organization on their 100-year long effort to continually improve the quality of life for millions of American workers. To each of their members and their General President, Jim Hoffa, I extend my thanks for their contributions to a strong and productive economy. The Teamsters have my best wishes for their second century.

INSTALLATION OF LOUISE "BEBE"
CANTER AS PRESIDENT OF THE
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE
AGENTS & BROKERS OF AMERICA

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 5, 2003

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Louise "Bebe" Canter, who will be installed as President of the nation's largest insurance association—the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America (IIBA)—later this month in Las Vegas. Bebe is senior vice president of Patterson/Smith Associates in Falls Church, VA.

She has enjoyed a distinguished career as an independent insurance agent which has been highlighted by her tireless service and dedication to her clients, community, IIBA, the Metropolitan Washington Association of